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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 12 totaled an estimated 17.1 billion ton-miles, 3.2 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first two weeks of 1985 was an estimated 29.2 billion ton-miles, down 8.0 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 12 totaled 368,834, down 3.6 percent from last year, and 40.5 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 5.2 percent in the East, 0.9 percent in the South, and 4.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 17 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. All 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding holiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 5 totaled 33,791 cars, down 9.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1984, and 54,623 trailers and/or containers, 17.6 percent below last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 01/12/85:

	Loadings in Week ended Jan. 12, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,404	D	4,834	14.5	I	10,405	57.8
Other farm products	5,020	D	297	5.6	I	1,585	46.1
Metallic ores	9,063	D	2,661	22.7	I	924	11.4
Coal	107,298	D	660	0.6	I	29,631	38.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,816	I	2,025	26.0	I	2,948	42.9
Nonmetallic minerals	9,723	D	1,641	14.4	I	548	6.0
Grain mill products	10,785	D	1,297	10.7	I	2,552	31.0
Food and kindred products	11,211	D	639	5.4	I	3,404	43.6
Primary forest products	14,002	I	264	1.9	I	4,622	49.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,801	D	216	3.1	I	2,761	68.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,718	D	35	0.2	I	2,006	15.8
Chemicals and allied products	25,002	D	196	0.8	I	5,351	27.2
Petroleum products	4,484	D	739	14.1	I	885	24.6
Stone, clay and glass products	9,646	D	69	0.7	I	2,344	32.1
Coke	4,590	D	160	3.4	I	517	12.7
Metals and products	8,196	D	965	10.5	I	2,046	33.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,175	I	1,055	5.2	I	10,631	100.8
Waste and scrap materials	8,864	D	970	9.9	I	3,683	71.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,039	D	2,042	25.3	I	1,891	45.6
All other carloads	53,851	I	308	0.6	I	17,532	48.3
LCL traffic	146	D	102	41.1	I	9	6.6
Total Cars Loaded	368,834	D	13,871	3.6	I	106,275	40.5
Corresponding week of 1984	382,705						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (2 weeks)	631,393	685,687	D 7.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 5	12.1	14.1	D 14.1
Week ended January 12	17.1	17.6	D 3.2
2 weeks cumulative	29.2	31.7	D 8.0

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